

rate is $k \times yy / (1+2k)$, said fourth weighting rate is $k \times nu / (1+2k)$ and said fifth weighting rate is $k \times ns / (1+2k)$. (where k represents a predetermined value, and tt , yy , nu and ns satisfy the following equation: $tt+yy+nu+ns = 1$)

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 21 and 22 are added. The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten paragraph (37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)(iii)).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

Date: April 24, 2001

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

APPENDIX

The following are marked-up versions of the amended paragraphs:

Page 12, line 25 - Page 13, line 13

~~If the image data are color image data, a similarity judgement is performed based upon at least two types of color information in the color image data in the similarity judging step.~~

As a result If the image data are color image data, a similarity judgement can also be performed based upon one type of color information in the color image data. In such a case, a calculation scale can be decreased. Furthermore, if a similarity judgement is performed based upon two types of color information, it is possible to make an accurate judgement with regard to a color boundary at which no difference may manifest based upon one type of color information, to execute correct direction-dependent low-pass filtering processing. In other words, it becomes possible to make an accurate judgement with regard to a location at which it is difficult to judge the image structure, such as a color boundary having a uniform brightness level. In addition, noise and jaggies can be minimized while fully preserving a color boundary with a uniform brightness level and the like.

Page 17, line 4 - line 12

~~Pixels that have not been interpolated, on the other hand, are not subject to any low-pass filtering processing (or the low-pass filtering processing is performed to a lesser degree). Consequently, data corresponding to pixels that have not been interpolated are preserved in their original form. Thus, the user is able to implement desired image processing later on based upon the original data corresponding to pixels that have not been interpolated.~~ Pixels that have not been interpolated, on the other hand, may be either subject to low-pass filtering processing or not.

Page 44, line 25 - Page 45, line 5

~~The image processing unit 15 executes direction-dependent low-pass filtering processing similar to the image processing achieved in the first embodiment on the G-interpolated pixel. In this situation, either of the following two types of low-pass filtering processing may be implement.~~ The image processing unit 15 executes direction-dependent low-pass filtering processing similar to the image processing achieved in the first embodiment on a G plane resulting from the G-interpolated processing.

Changes to Claims:

Claims 21 and 22 are added.